How-To Guide to geographical location using AreaFinder

Purpose

This How-To Guide provides clear, step-by-step instructions on how to effectively use the AreaFinder app and follow GPHIN's guidelines for geographical location of epidemiological events in GPHIN products. The objective is to apply standardized name when reporting on events in GPHIN products, particularly the Daily Report. The guide is designed to ensure consistency, accuracy, and alignment with official Government of Canada and United Nations geolocation standards (M49), enabling the smooth implementation of automated workflows in the GPHIN Collaboration Hub.

Scope

This guide covers the following tasks:

- How to use the AreaFinder app to select the appropriate geographical location (continent, region, or country) when describing events to GPHIN products.
- The step-by-step process of applying the geolocation standards outlined in the Daily Report.
- Guidance on ensuring that country names, regional classifications, and geolocation attributes adhere to the official GoC and UN M49 standards.

Audience

This guide is intended for GPHIN analysts and epidemiolgists.

Guide lines

1. Daily Reports entries no longer will be attributed to institutions, only Geolocalities.

Concider the image below frrm the Daily Report of Jan. 28, 2025:

5. **PAHO:** According to the latest PAHO epidemiological update on **avian influenza H5N1** in the Americas, during 2024 alone and as of January 17, 2025, 68 human cases have been reported in Canada and the United States, of which 54 were reported between October 2024 and January 2025. Nine countries and territories in the Americas (Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Ecuador, the Falkland Islands, Mexico, Peru and the United States) have reported 1,451 outbreaks of avian influenza in birds and mammals during 2024. (PAHO)

Figure 1: DR entry #5 of 25-01-28